

January 1995

IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing

Dorothy McGarry

Follow this and additional works at: <http://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews>

[Let us know how access to this document benefits you](#)

Recommended Citation

McGarry, Dorothy (1995) "IFLA Section on Classification and Indexing," *Sci-Tech News*: Vol. 49: Iss. 1, Article 5.
Available at: <http://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews/vol49/iss1/5>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's [Center for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in *Sci-Tech News* by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

IFLA SECTION ON CLASSIFICATION AND INDEXING

By Dorothy McGarry

The IFLA conference in Havana saw much work on the part of the Section on Classification and Indexing, although we were disappointed that only seven of our Standing Committee members were able to attend.

The Open Programme of the Section had three papers: Yolande Arencibia (Asocacion Cubana de Bibiotecarios (ASCUBI), Havana Cuba, spoke on "Tendencias actuales de la clasificacion y la indizacion en Cuba." Her paper was printed in the booklet, but only a summary was given at the meeting, with consecutive translation into English.

Sergio Apelian Valerio (Fundacao Biblioteca Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Brazil) provided a paper on "El proceso de construccion de tesauros y de indizacion automatizada de documentos fotografico en la Biblioteca Nacional del Brasil." He was not able to attend, so his paper was read by Pilar Benedito Castellote, a Standing Committee member.

Gerhard J.A. Riesthuis (Department of Book-, Library- and Information Science, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands) spoke on the "Sociological aspects of classification."

Donna Duncan, Section Chair,

presented a report on the Section's activities at the Open Forum of the Division of Bibliographic Control. The Division of Bibliographic Control held a workshop all day Thursday as a follow-up to the Seminar on Universal Bibliographic Control which had been held in Rio de Janeiro in March 1993. Our two Section officers had participated in that Seminar, as well as in the Seminar held in Romania in August 1993.

The Section's Working Group on Principles Underlying Subject Heading Languages met twice during the conference, under the leadership of Maria Ines Lopes (Instituto da Biblioteca Nacional e do Livro, Lisbon, Portugal). A draft including a statement of the principles and statements from a number of subject heading systems was reviewed, and plans made for further work.

Two SC members will send examples from their subject heading systems/codes, and Ms. Lopes will contact several people from other countries asking for their assistance in providing examples from additional systems. When the data has been gathered and collated, the WG will look at the revised draft. The next step will

be to send out a draft to experts in the field worldwide for review and comments.

Julianne Beall and Nancy Williamson represented our Section this year on a new working group on a UNIMARC classification format. This WG, chaired by Joan Mitchell (Editor, Dewey Decimal Classification) is considering the LC classification format and additional data needed to fit it into a UNIMARC format and to make it workable for other classification schemes besides LC and DDC. The WG is a joint group of our Section and the Section on Information Technology. A draft document, "Requirements for a UNIMARC format for classification and data control" was distributed to members of the Standing Committees of the Sections on Classification and Indexing and on Information Technology, as well as to the members of the Permanent UNIMARC Committee. The WG did not meet in Havana, but it is expected that further information on its work will be available during the year.

The "Guidelines for Subject Authority and Reference Entries" was published by Saur in fall 1993. The WG which prepared the "Guidelines" had worked very hard for a number of years, and we were pleased to see it published.

The papers from the Section's satellite meeting held in Lisbon in August 1993, "Subject Indexing: Principles and Practices in the 90's" have been edited by Bob Holley, Donna

Duncan, Dorothy McGarry, and Elaine Svenonius, with Bob Holley serving as the overall editor. Finished copy went to the UBCIM Programme Office this summer, and publication by Saur will probably be in fall 1994.

Plans for the 1995 Istanbul meeting and the 1996 Beijing meeting were discussed, as was an updating of the Section's work plan for the new year. Plans for Istanbul include a paper on classification and indexing in Turkey, including information on problems of translation and expansion of classification systems in the country; a report of the work of the WG on Principles Underlying Subject Heading Languages by I. Lopes, and a paper on adaptations and expansion of classification systems in Iran and the Arabic countries, by P. Soltani (National Library of Iran). Plans for Beijing must be worked on further. We expect to have a paper on classification and indexing in China, as well as two other papers.

The Division is also considering a satellite meeting in the form of an additional UBC/UNIMARC Seminar. The Section Chair prepares a Newsletter each year, and the Newsletter is available free to interested people. Please contact Donna Duncan, McGill University, for a copy.

Dorothy McGarry is employed at University of California—Los Angeles, Science & Engineering Library, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1598.